AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method of preparing an organic food supplement useful to inhibit *Ruminococcus albus*, *R. flavefaciens*, *Butyrivibrio fibriosolvens*, or *Methanobacterium ruminatium* using *Humulus lupulus* (hop) acids for livestock, comprising mixing the hop acids for oral ingestion with a livestock feed, wherein the hop acids are mixed with the feed in an amount to inhibit undesirable bacteria ~~including~~selected from one or more of ~~*Ruminococcus*~~*Ruminococcus albus*, *R. flavefaciens*, *Butyrivibrio fibriosolvens*, and *Methanobacterium ruminatium*, ~~various *streptococci, Lactobacilli* and protozoa including Entodini and Isotricha~~ commonly found in digestive systems of livestock.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the hop acids as well as their corresponding salts are selected from at least one of the group consisting of alpha acids, beta acids, isoalpha acids, rho-isoalpha acids, tetrahydroisoalpha acids and hexahydroisoalpha acids.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the alpha acids are selected from at least one of the group consisting of humulone, cohumulone, and adhumulone.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the beta acids are selected from at least one of the group consisting of lupulone, colupulone, and adlupulone.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the hop acid is mixed with the feed results in an amount of 2 parts per million (ppm) of hop acid present in fluid of the digestive system of livestock.

6 - 10 (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the livestock is selected from the group consisting of cattle, poultry, horses, pigs, and zoo animals.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein an amount of hop acid mixed with the feed is capable of increasing a level of propionate in the digestive system.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)